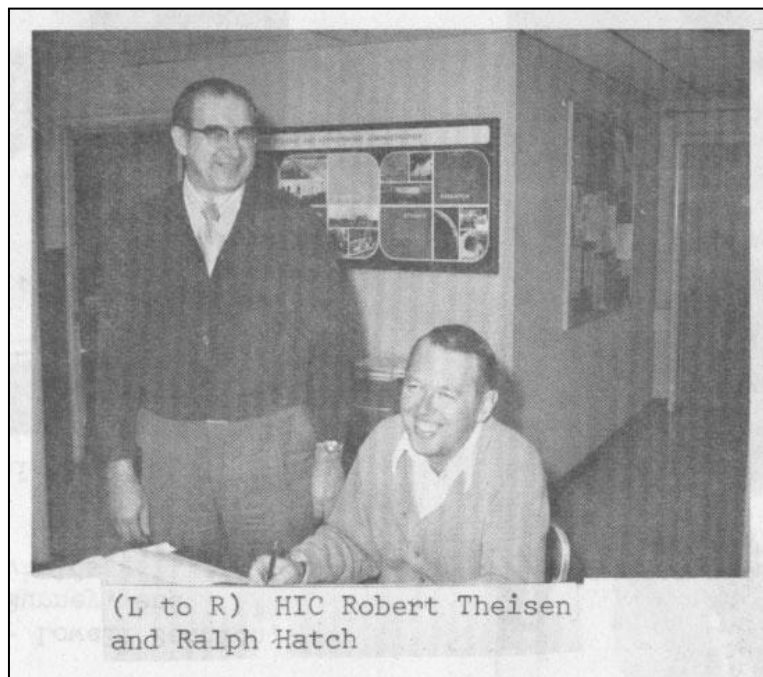


Colorado Basin RFC (originally known as the Salt Lake City RFC)

The Salt Lake City office was originally a Water Supply Forecast Unit that was established in 1947 and continued as such till 1969 when its mission was expanded and it became a River Forecast Center.

Eric Anderson (HRL retiree) reflections on a 1964 orientation trip: _When I visited in 1964 there was just a Water Supply Forecast Unit in SLC. Gene Peck was in charge of the unit. I believe there were 2 other hydrologists at that time. The only forecasting activities were regression based water supply procedures which of course were very critical in the west. There was no real time river forecasting like at the other river centers. They were working on a procedure for somewhere on the Colorado River that as best as I remember used the current flow and the temperatures over the past few days to predict the flows over the next few days during the snowmelt season. The main activity when I visited was the preparation of isohyetal maps for the Great Basin states. Gene Peck had developed the anomaly procedure for generating seasonal and annual precipitation estimates in the mountains. I actually got to draw some of the isohyets on the Arizona map while visiting the office.

The 1970s¹



Robert Theisen (HIC) began his career at Grand Junction, Colorado, in 1948. Subsequent assignments have been at Kansas City RFC, Fort Worth RFC, and

¹ Photos and profiles from early 1970s Western Region Headquarters publication (title and date of publication unknown)

then to Salt Lake City RFC. He dabbles in many things, and is presently remodeling his home.

Mildred Ellsworth (secretary) transferred to Salt Lake City RFC from Hill AFB in 1963. She enjoys horseback-riding, hiking, and sewing.

Ralph Hatch (Hydrologist) was a Student Trainee during the summer of 1965 at Salt Lake City WSFO, and began his full-time career at Reno in 1966. He served at Helena and Sacramento before returning to Salt Lake City RFC in late 1973. His outside interests include reading and sports.

David Westnedge (Hydrologist) served a six-month detail beginning in June 1965 at Washington, D.C., before going to Helena, Montana. Dave came to Salt Lake City in 1968. His favorite outside activities are tennis, bowling, golfing, and bridge.

